

Docket No.: 713-1004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                   |   |                        |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| In re Application of              | : |                        |
| Christian BAUER                   | : | Confirmation No. ----- |
| U.S. Patent Application No. ----- | : | Group Art Unit: -----  |
| Filed: January 30, 2004           | : | Examiner: -----        |
| For: A RETAINING MEMBER           |   |                        |

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The relevancy of each non-English reference listed on the attached PTO-1449 is discussed in the present specification for the Examiner's information.

Respectfully submitted,

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.